GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:413
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Post Harvest Infrastructure
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fruits and vegetables are getting wasted every year due to non-availability of sufficient post-harvest infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the total quantum of fruits and vegetables produced during the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal or programmes to improve/strengthen post-harvest infrastructure like cold storages, transportation, etc. in various States of the country including Gujarat, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the quantum of funds allocated/sanctioned by the Government to various States for this purpose during the current year, details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): A study was commissioned by Ministry of Food Processing Industries and carried out by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), published in 2015. The study estimated that quantum of quantitative harvest and post harvest losses of fruits and vegetables were in the range of 6.70% to 15.88% (fruits) and 4.58% to 12.44% (vegetables) due to various reasons such as harvesting, cleaning, sorting/grading, packaging, transportation, storage channels, weight loss in storage etc.

The State wise total quantum of fruits and vegetables produced during the last three year in the country is at Annexure − I.

Contdâ€¦2/-

(c) & (d): In order to create post harvest infrastructure including cold storages and reefer transport in various States of the country including Gujarat, Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) comprising of programmes of National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Board (NHB).

Under MIDH credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% in case of hilly and schedule areas is available for creation post harvest management infrastructure like cold storage/cold chain infrastructure. The component is demand/ entrepreneur driven from entrepreneurs, private companies, cooperatives, farmers groups etc through commercial ventures for which Government assistance is credit linked and back ended. Further, Ministry of Food Processing Industries and Agricultural Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Ministry of Commerce is also implementing programmes for creation of post harvest infrastructure.

The quantum of funds allocated during current year under NHM and HMNEH to various States for development of horticulture including creation of post harvest infrastructure is at Annexure − II.

States have been advised to allocate minimum 35% of their budget for creation of post harvest infrastructure under their AAP. The State wise allocations under the programmes of NHB are not made as these are demand driven and project based.